

**BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**JULY 29, 1999**

**IN RE:**

<b>PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT</b>	)	
<b>TO INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT</b>	)	
<b>NEGOTIATED BY BELL SOUTH</b>	)	<b>DOCKET NO. 99-00405</b>
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND E.SPIRE</b>	)	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FORMERLY AMERICAN</b>	)	
<b>COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC. PURSUANT TO</b>	)	
<b>SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE</b>	)	
<b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996</b>	)	

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**ORDER APPROVING AMENDMENT TO INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

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This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. for approval of an Amendment to Interconnection Agreement (the "Amendment") negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and e.spire Communications, Inc. formerly American Communications Services, Inc. The Petition for approval of the Amendment came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252.

The Amendment was considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on July 13, 1999, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Melvin J. Malone, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Sara Kyle. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.* Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252, the Directors unanimously approved the Amendment and made the following findings and conclusions:

- 1) The Amendment is in the public interest as it provides consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. service area;

2) The Amendment is not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;

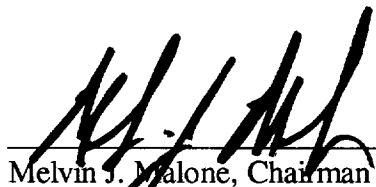
3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;

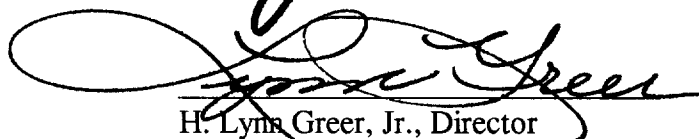
4) The approval of the Amendment is consistent with previous Authority decisions and orders; and

5) The Amendment and Interconnection Agreement are reviewable by the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251-252 and Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.*

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:**


The Amendment to Interconnection Agreement negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and e.spire Communications, Inc. formerly American Communications Services, Inc. is approved and is subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.

  
Melvin J. Malone, Chairman

  
H. Lynn Greer, Jr., Director

  
Sara Kyle, Director

ATTEST:

  
K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary